

subject matter of these claims in a future application.

Please add new claims 50-57 as follows:

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50. (New) A method of preventing or treating cutaneous inflammation in a subject which comprises administering to the subject an antibody or portion thereof that binds to kit protein in an amount effective to inhibit the kinase enzymatic reaction of kit protein and to inhibit the stem cell factor signaling pathway, thereby preventing or treating cutaneous inflammation in the subject.
51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the subject is selected from the group consisting of a cow, a horse, a sheep, a pig, a dog, a cat, a rabbit and a primate.
52. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the subject is a human being.
53. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
54. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the monoclonal antibody is a human antibody, a humanized antibody or a chimeric antibody.
55. (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the monoclonal antibody is an anti-c-kit antibody.
56. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the